# Civil affairs soldiers deliver school supplies

Story and photos by Spc. Ryan Smith, 372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq - - Soldiers from the 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion, an Army Reserve unit from Greensboro, N.C., delivered school supplies to the Shahaba School in Baghdad Oct. 8.

The civil affairs soldiers delivered general school supplies, such as composition books, pens, pencils, paper, and crayons, according to Maj. Jeff Silverthorne, civil affairs officer, 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion.

Soldiers from the 422nd collected supplies sent from friends and family back home in the United States to donate to the school.

Giving children the proper tools to receive a good education will help to bring the country back to normal, Silverthorne said.

"Education is very important," he said.
"By doing this we can help the children to
understand the democratic process. They can
learn a new way of life."

When the soldiers arrived at the school, they found contractors hard at work, painting walls and repairing fixtures inside and outside the school.

The repair work is a result of the concerns of the area's Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC), according to 2nd Lt. Jonathan Adams, fire support officer, B Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division.

"The NAC really pushed the issue of getting the school repaired," Adams said. "We've been working on it for about three weeks."

Adams said that he relies heavily on the NAC to bring their concerns, such as this school, to his attention.



Spc. Rena Brownridge and Spc. Maurice Jones, civil affairs specialists, 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion, an Army Reserve unit from Greensboro, N.C., hand out candy to children at the Shahaba School in Baghdad Oct. 8.

"The money comes from the commander's fund, but the work is all done through the NAC," he said. "Working through the NAC, we empower the people and place the responsibility of the community on them."

As the Iraqi people take responsibility for their own communities, Adams said, credibility in the new government is established.

The repair work at the school and the donation by the civil affairs soldiers are simply small steps in getting Iraq back to normal—and to ensure that the future of Iraq does not imitate its past.

As Spc. Rena Brownridge, civil affairs specialist, 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion, said: "To do something like this for the Iraqi children makes a real impact on the future of Iraq."

# The Old Ironsides Report Oct. 13, 2003

#### **NEWS**

Indonesian Terror Suspect Believed Killed

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - An escaped key member of Indonesia's al-Qaida-linked terrorist group was believed to have been killed Sunday in a shootout with Philippine troops and police, the military said. Fathur Al-Ghozi, the top bomb-maker for the group Jemaah Islamiya, became one of Asia's most-wanted men after escaping from Manila police headquarters in July. He had been serving 12 years for illegally possessing explosives.

## Senators Denounce Bush's War Performance

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bush has lost control of Iraq policy because of infighting among administration officials, the leaders of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said Sunday. The administration also came under criticism from Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry for being unwilling to create a real international coalition and alienating governments everywhere. "This is haphazard, shotgun, shoot-from-the-hip diplomacy," the Massachusetts senator said.

Palestinian PM Says He'll Leave His Post

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) - Interim Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia told the ruling Fatah party Sunday he does not intend to seek the job when a new Cabinet is formed in three weeks, Fatah officials said. Speaking after a meeting of the Fatah central committee, Qureia said a new government would be formed in three weeks "with a new prime minister, too."

#### AP: U.S. Uncovers Plans for More Attacks

WASHINGTON (AP) - Some of the al-Qaida operatives whose activities led to a U.S. security warning last month have been captured, while others remain at large, U.S. counterterrorism authorities say. "We have received a lot of good information from these detainees over the past several weeks and corroborated the fact there were active plans, ongoing, to conduct another attack in the United States," said William H. Parrish, a top intelligence official with the Homeland Security Department, during a recent interview with The Associated Press.

# SAFETY TIP SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Be Battle Ready; Trust your Instincts
- Don't be Predictable; Routine can be your enemy
- Always Survey Your Surroundings; Expect the unexpected

#### ENTERTAINMENT

## Tarantino Makes a Box Office Killing

LOS ANGELES (AP) - It was payback time for Quentin Tarantino and Uma Thurman at the box office as their vengeance saga "Kill Bill - Vol. 1" opened in first place with \$22.7 million. The previous weekend's No. 1 flick, "The School of Rock," slipped to second place with \$15.4 million. The Coen brothers' romantic comedy "Intolerable Cruelty," starring George Clooney and Catherine Zeta-Jones, debuted at No. 3 with \$13.1 million.

#### SPORTS

## Hall of Fame Jockey Bill Shoemaker Dies

SAN MARINO, Calif. (AP) - Bill Shoemaker, who rode four Kentucky Derby winners and for more than 40 years was a commanding presence in thoroughbred racing, died Sunday. He was 72. Shoemaker died in his sleep at his suburban home near Santa Anita racetrack, according to longtime friend and trainer Paddy Gallagher. The Hall of Fame jockey had been paralyzed from the neck down since 1991.

### Police Seek Witnesses to Fenway Fight

BOSTON (AP) - Police are seeking witnesses to a fight between two Yankees and a Fenway Park worker in the New York bullpen during Game 3 of the AL championship series before deciding whether to file charges. The Yankees' 4-3 win Saturday night over the Red Sox, to take a 2-1 series lead, had already been marred by brushbacks and brawls. Before the bullpen incident, Boston ace Pedro Martinez threw Don Zimmer to the ground as the 72-year-old Yankees coach prepared to throw a punch.

# Chaplain's Thought for the Day: Calming Anger Down

In a west Texas town a few years ago, employees in a medium-sized warehouse noticed the smell of gas. Sensibly, management evacuated the building, extinguishing all potential sources of ignition -- lights, power, etc.

After the building had been evacuated, two technicians from the gas company were dispatched. Upon entering the building, they found they had difficulty navigating in the dark. To their frustration, none of the lights worked.

Witnesses later described the vision of one of the technicians reaching into his pocket and retrieving an object that resembled a lighter. Upon operation of the lighter-like object, the gas in the warehouse exploded, sending pieces of it up to three miles away.

Nothing was found of the technicians, but the lighter was virtually untouched by the explosion.

We've all been around those kinds of situations (not literally, but figuratively) -- where someone was angry and it wouldn't take much to create an explosion. We have two choices in that setting, described by Solomon in this way:

"A gentle answer will calm a person's anger, but an unkind answer will cause more anger." (Prov. 15:1, NCV)

"Wise people calm anger down." (Prov. 29:8b, NCV)



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13:30   SPORTSCENTER   JUDGE JUDY   TODAY   NYPD BLUE :- YOU'VE GOT MAIL   GOOD MORNING AMERICA	13:0	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		A HAUNTING IN GEORGIA	HEADLINE NEWS		13:00	
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